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IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of

H. Lee et al.

Serial No.: 09/723,236 **Group Art Unit:** 2164

Filed: November 28, 2000 **Examiner:** Unknown

For: METHOD AND VISUAL INTERFACE FOR EVALUATING MULTI-ATTRIBUTE BIDS IN A NETWORK ENVIRONMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SUBMISSION OF FORMAL DRAWINGS

Sir:

Submitted herewith are eight (8) sheets of formal drawings comprising figures 1-8 for the above-identified patent application. Please substitute the formal drawings for the drawings which were filed with the application.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew M. Calderon
Reg. No.: 38,093

McGuireWoods LLP
1750 Tysons Boulevard, Suite 1800
McLean, VA 22102
(703)712-5000

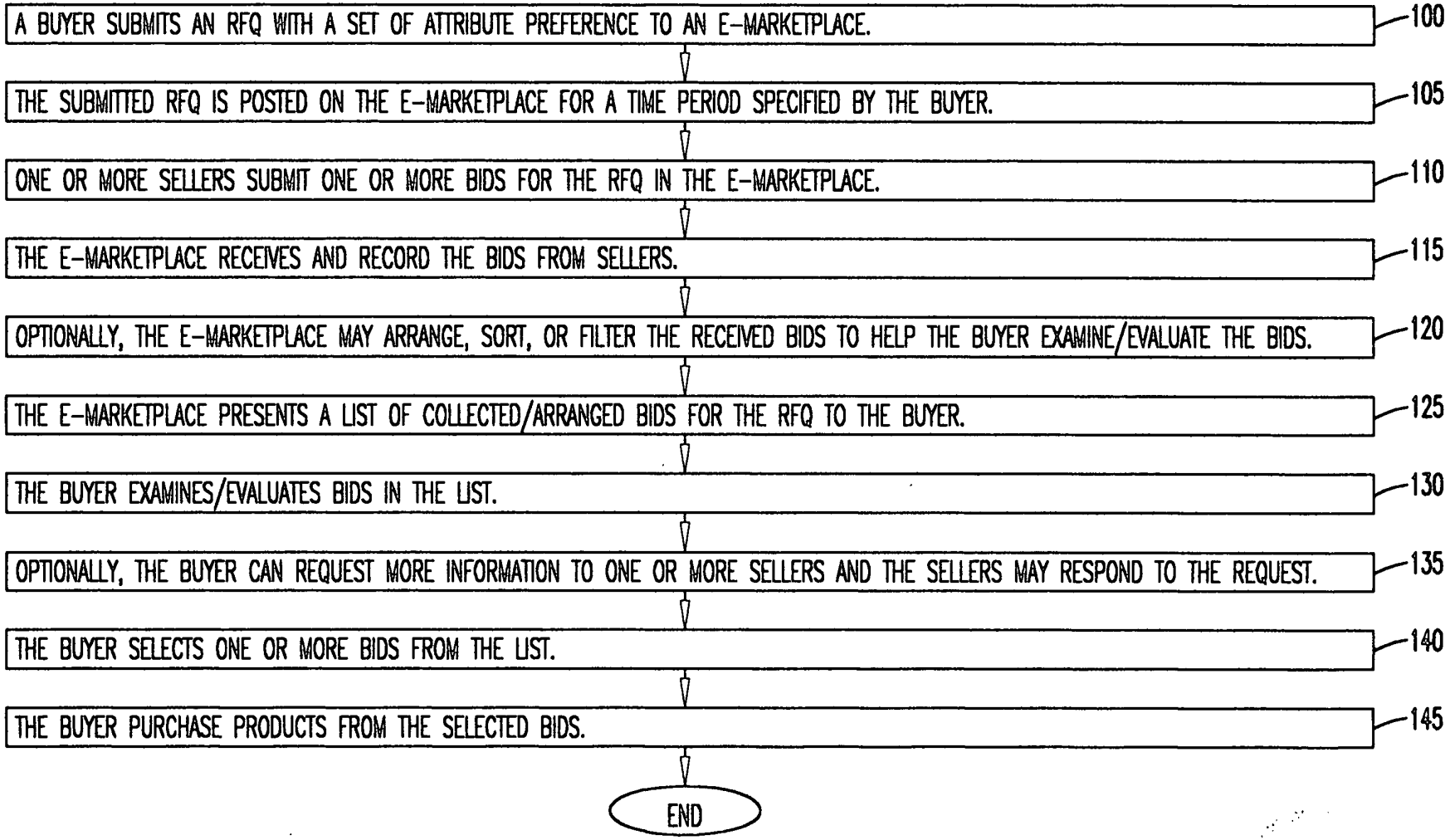


FIG. 1
PRIOR ART

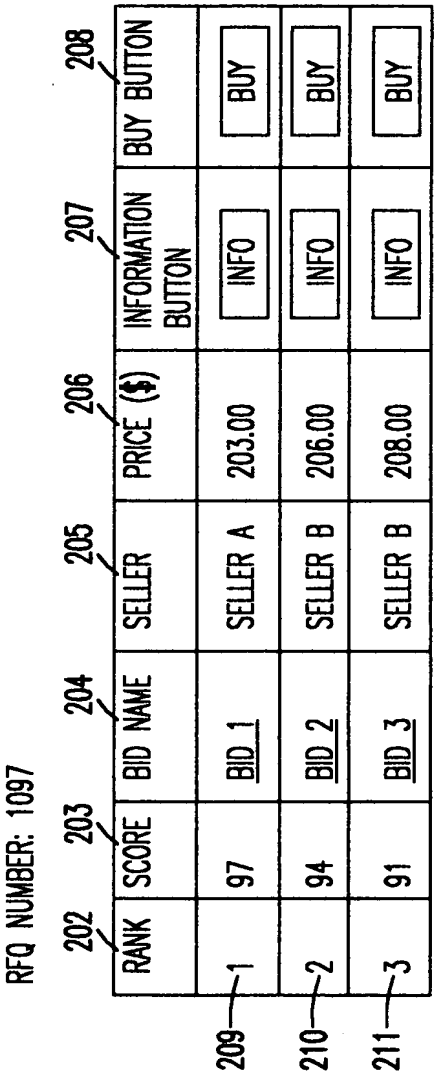


FIG. 2
PRIOR ART

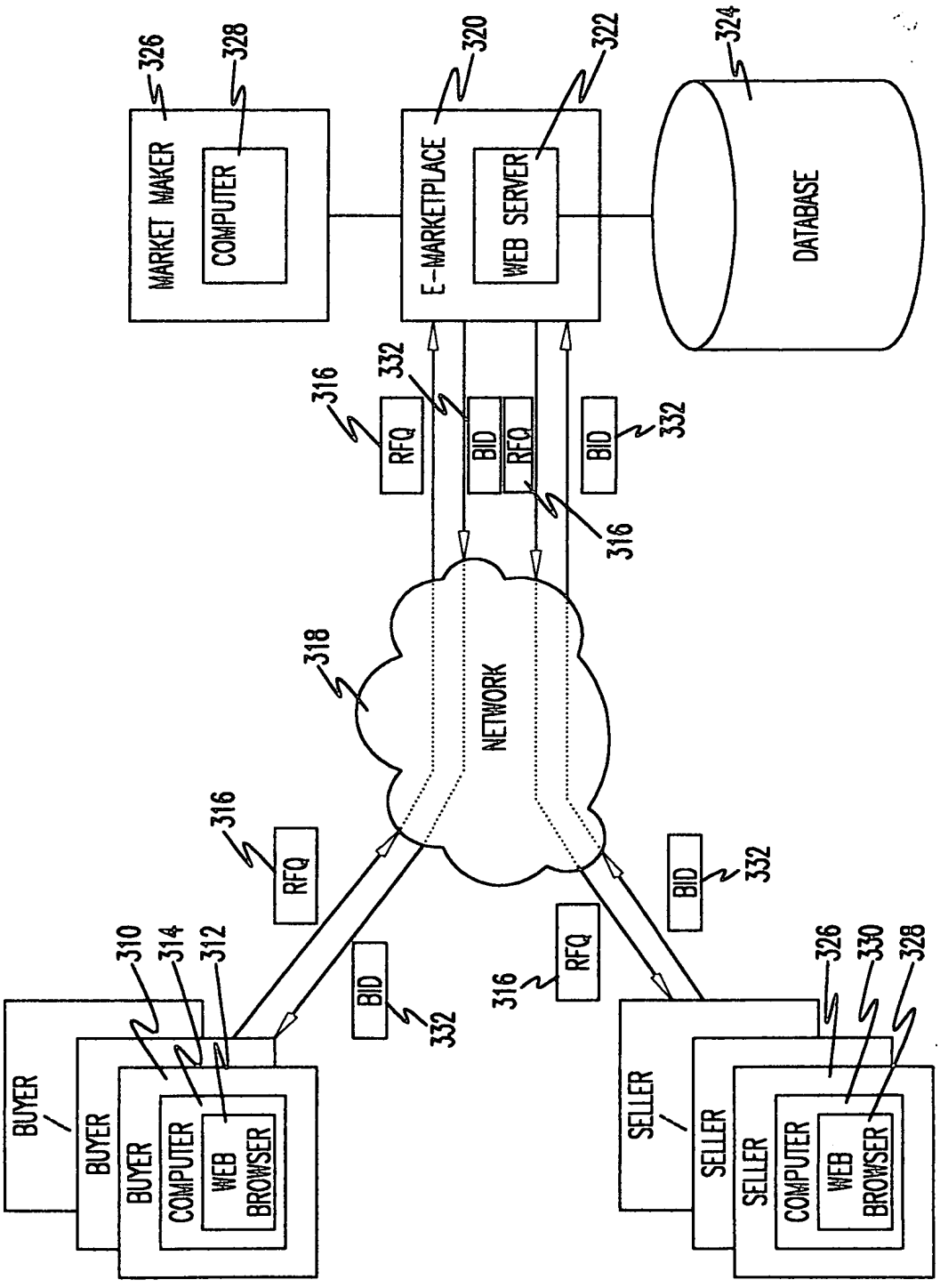

MARKET MAKER
COMPUTER
326
328
E-MARKETPLACE
WEB SERVER
320
322
DATABASE
324
RFQ
BID
316
332
NETWORK
318
BUYER
BUYER
BUYER
COMPUTER
WEB BROWSER
310
314
312
SELLER
SELLER
SELLER
COMPUTER
WEB BROWSER
326
330
328

FIG. 3

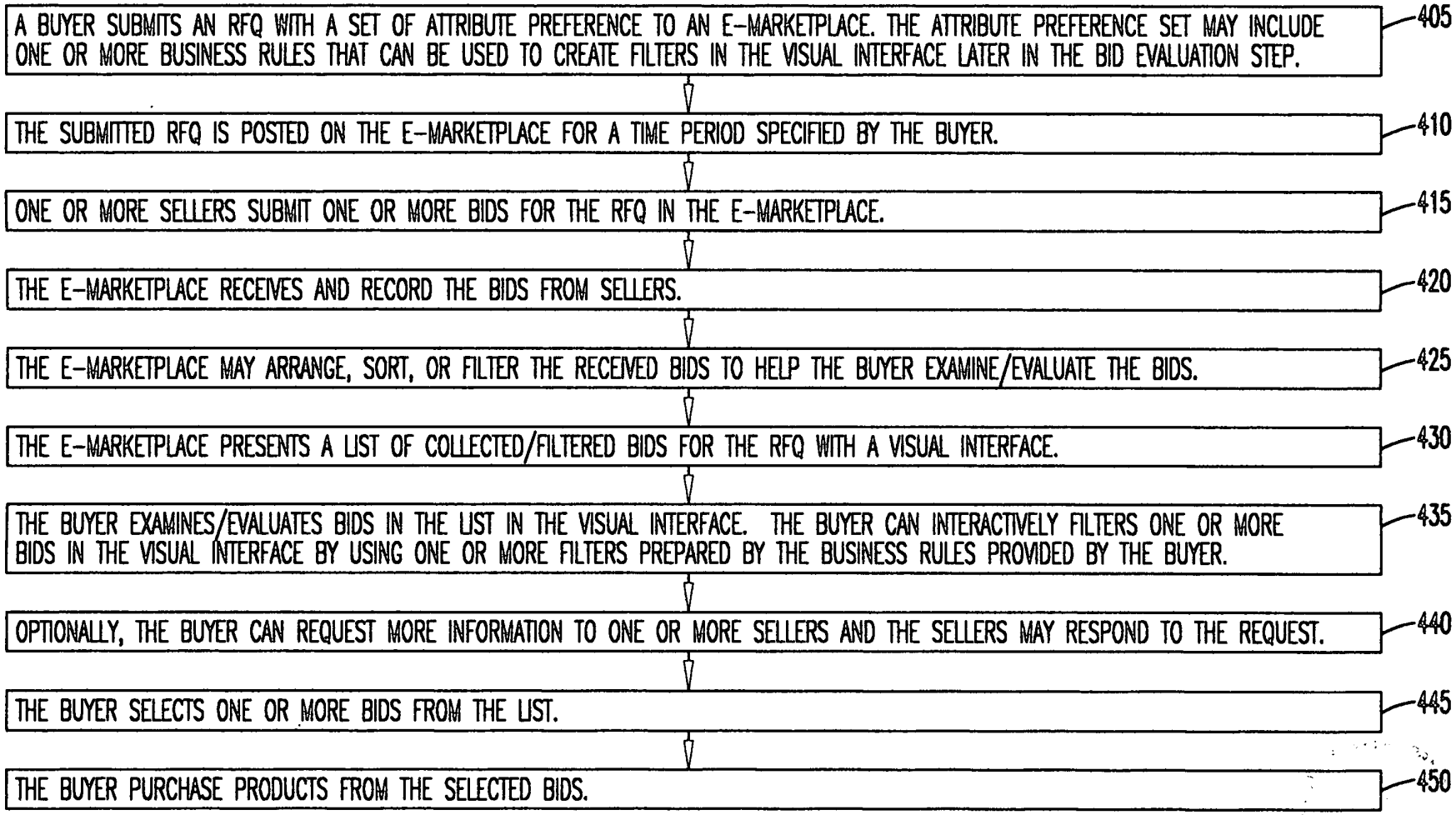

A BUYER SUBMITS AN RFQ WITH A SET OF ATTRIBUTE PREFERENCE TO AN E-MARKETPLACE. THE ATTRIBUTE PREFERENCE SET MAY INCLUDE ONE OR MORE BUSINESS RULES THAT CAN BE USED TO CREATE FILTERS IN THE VISUAL INTERFACE LATER IN THE BID EVALUATION STEP.
405
THE SUBMITTED RFQ IS POSTED ON THE E-MARKETPLACE FOR A TIME PERIOD SPECIFIED BY THE BUYER.
410
ONE OR MORE SELLERS SUBMIT ONE OR MORE BIDS FOR THE RFQ IN THE E-MARKETPLACE.
415
THE E-MARKETPLACE RECEIVES AND RECORD THE BIDS FROM SELLERS.
420
THE E-MARKETPLACE MAY ARRANGE, SORT, OR FILTER THE RECEIVED BIDS TO HELP THE BUYER EXAMINE/EVALUATE THE BIDS.
425
THE E-MARKETPLACE PRESENTS A LIST OF COLLECTED/FILTERED BIDS FOR THE RFQ WITH A VISUAL INTERFACE.
430
THE BUYER EXAMINES/EVALUATES BIDS IN THE LIST IN THE VISUAL INTERFACE. THE BUYER CAN INTERACTIVELY FILTERS ONE OR MORE BIDS IN THE VISUAL INTERFACE BY USING ONE OR MORE FILTERS PREPARED BY THE BUSINESS RULES PROVIDED BY THE BUYER.
435
OPTIONALLY, THE BUYER CAN REQUEST MORE INFORMATION TO ONE OR MORE SELLERS AND THE SELLERS MAY RESPOND TO THE REQUEST.
440
THE BUYER SELECTS ONE OR MORE BIDS FROM THE LIST.
445
THE BUYER PURCHASE PRODUCTS FROM THE SELECTED BIDS.
450

FIG. 4

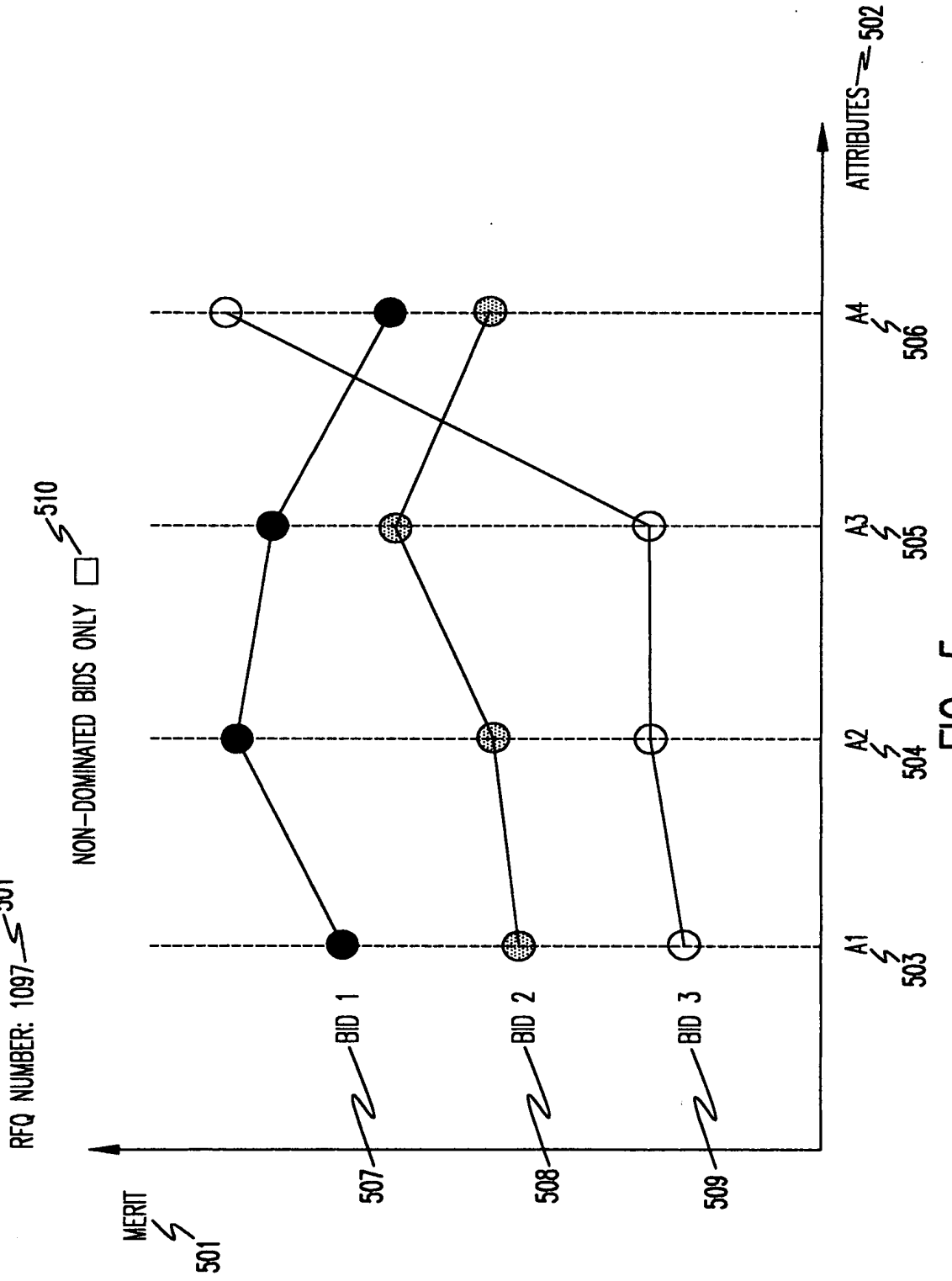

RFQ NUMBER: 1097
501
NON-DOMINATED BIDS ONLY
510
MERIT
501
ATTRIBUTES
502
A1
503
A2
504
A3
505
A4
506
BID 1
507
BID 2
508
BID 3
509

FIG. 5

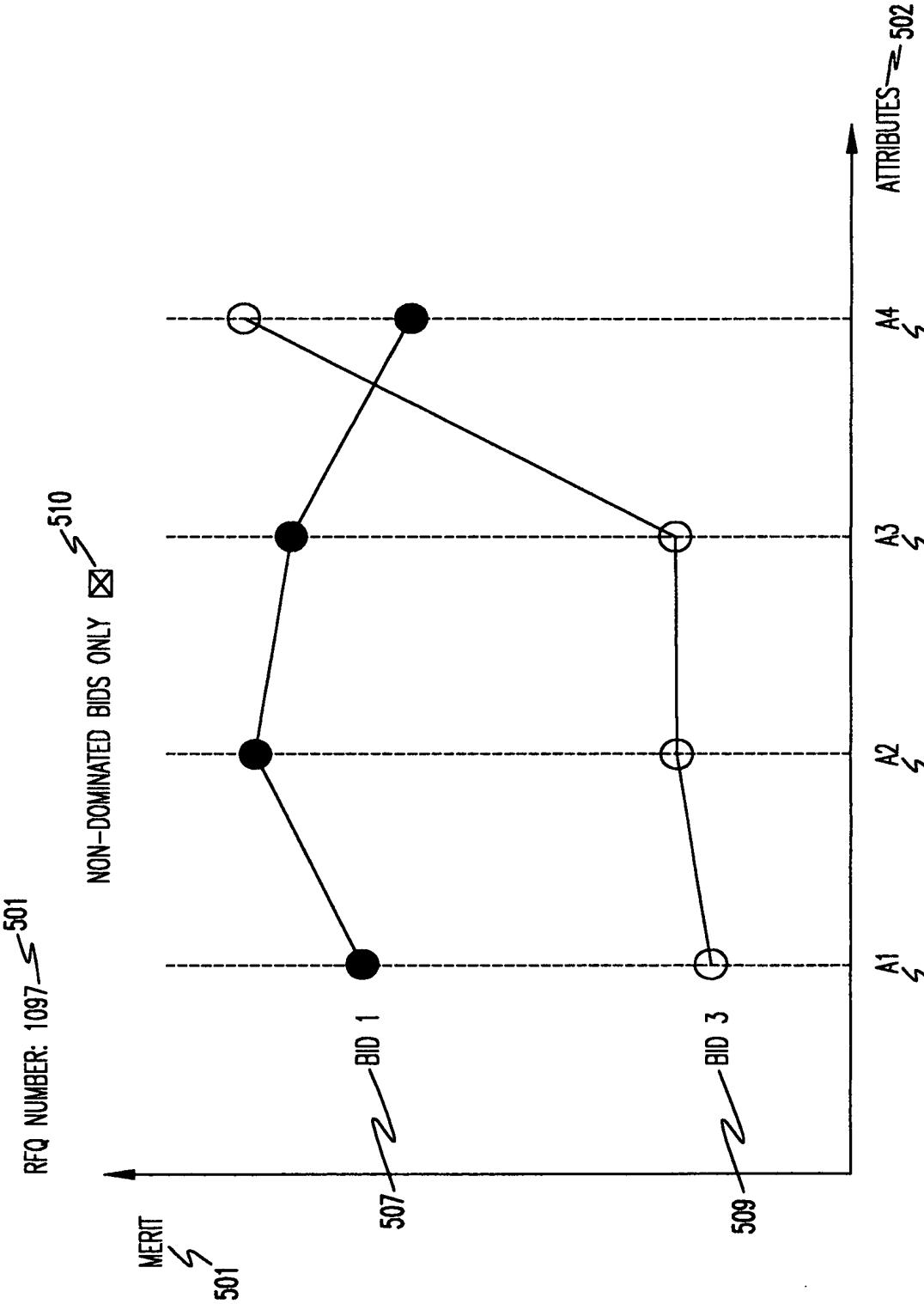

RFQ NUMBER: 1097
501
NON-DOMINATED BIDS ONLY
510
MERIT
501
BID 1
507
BID 3
509
ATTRIBUTES
502
A1
503
A2
504
A3
505
A4
506

FIG. 6

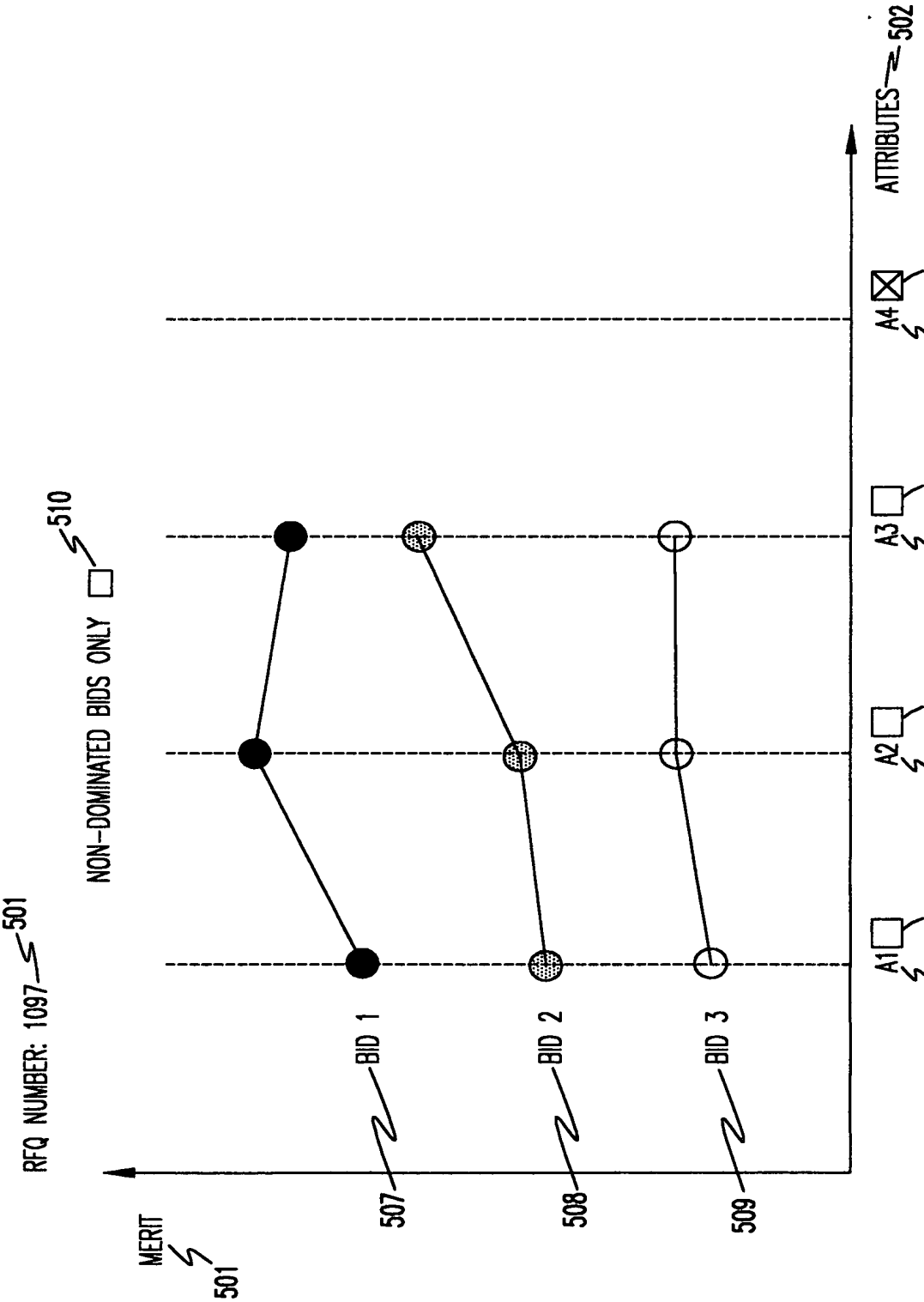
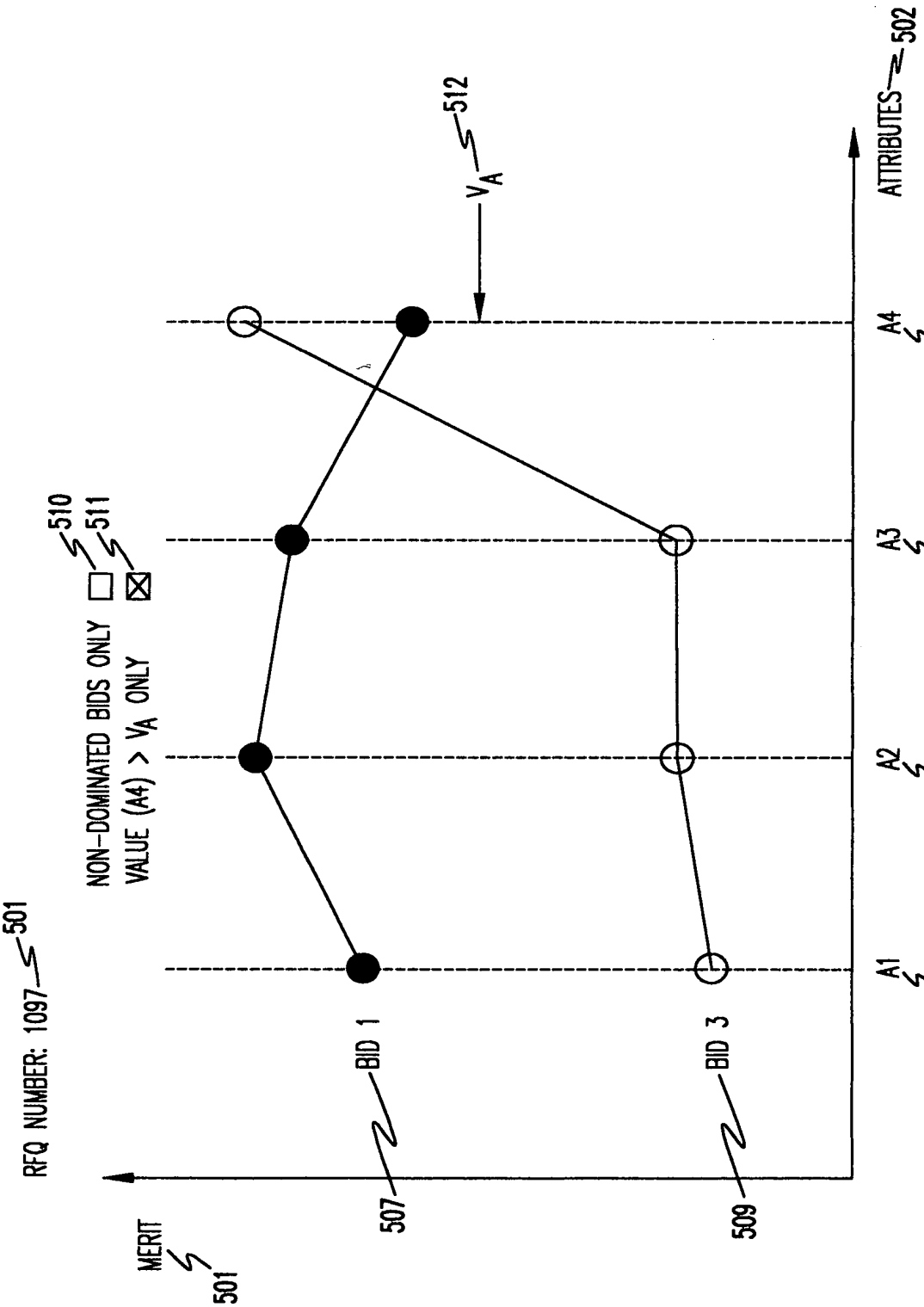

RFQ NUMBER: 1097
501
NON-DOMINATED BIDS ONLY
510
MERIT
501
ATTRIBUTES
502
A1
503
503a
A2
504
504a
A3
505
505a
A4
506
506a
BID 1
507
BID 2
508
BID 3
509

FIG. 7


RFQ NUMBER: 1097
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NON-DOMINATED BIDS ONLY
VALUE (A4) > V_A ONLY
510
511
512
V_A
MERIT
501
BID 1
507
BID 3
509
A1
503
A2
504
A3
505
A4
506
ATTRIBUTES
502

FIG. 8